

REMARKS

Formal Matters

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 5-6, the only claims pending and currently under examination in this application.

Claim 5 was amended to recite that the laminated material is configured for use in laser ablation. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, for example in the Summary of the Invention on page 2. No new matter has been added.

As no new matter has been added by these amendments, the entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nagura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,927,682).

Claim 5 has been amended to recite that the laminated material is configured for use in laser ablation. The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach a laminated material that is configured for laser ablation. Accordingly, Nagura et al. do not teach all of the claim limitations for at least the reason that Nagura et al. fail to teach a laminated material that is configured for use in laser ablation. As all of the claim limitations are not taught in the Nagura et al. reference, Nagura et al. cannot anticipate Claims 5 and 6. As such, the Applicant respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

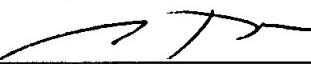
Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number AERX-070DIV.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 4/21/03

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